BEFORE THE BOARD OF REGISTERED NURSING DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of the Accusation Against:

BRONTE LEE EDDE
a.k.a. ROBBIN LEE TIERNAN
a.k.a. BRONTE LEE FRASER
23 Indigo Oaks Court
Sacramento, CA 95834

Registered Nurse License No. 372834

Respondent

Case No. 2012-638

OAH No. 2012060731

DECISION AND ORDER

The attached Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order is hereby adopted by the Board of Registered Nursing, Department of Consumer Affairs, as its Decision in this matter.

This Decision shall become effective on March 15, 2013.

IT IS SO ORDERED February 15, 2013.

Raymond Mallel, President Board of Registered Nursing

Department of Consumer Affairs

State of California

1	Kamala D. Harris	
2	Attorney General of California JANICE K. LACHMAN	
3	Supervising Deputy Attorney General KAREN R. DENVIR	
4	Deputy Attorney General State Bar No. 197268	
5	1300 I Street, Suite 125 P.O. Box 944255	
6	Sacramento, CA 94244-2550 Telephone: (916) 324-5333	
7	Facsimile: (916) 327-8643 Attorneys for Complainant	
		DE THE
8	BOARD OF REGI	RE THE STERED NURSING
9		CONSUMER AFFAIRS CALIFORNIA
10	/ 1]
11	In the Matter of the Accusation Against:	Case No. 2012-638
12	BRONTE LEE EDDE, AKA ROBBIN LEE TIERNAN, AKA	OAH No. 2012060731
13	BRONTE LEE FRASER, AKA 23 Indigo Oaks Court	STIPULATED SETTLEMENT AND
14	Sacramento, CA 95834 Registered Nurse License No. 372834	DISCIPLINARY ORDER
15	Respondent.	. *
16	itespondent.	
17	IT IS HEREBY STIPULATED AND AG	REED by and between the parties to the above-
18	entitled proceedings that the following matters a	are true:
19	PAI	<u>RTIES</u>
20	1. Louise R. Bailey, M.Ed., RN (Comp	plainant) is the Executive Officer of the Board of
21	Registered Nursing. She brought this action sol	ely in her official capacity and is represented in
22	this matter by Kamala D. Harris, Attorney Gene	eral of the State of California, by Karen R. Denvir,
23	Deputy Attorney General.	
24	2. Respondent Bronte Lee Edde (Resp	ondent) is represented in this proceeding by
25	attorney Jeffrey S. Kravitz, Esq., whose address	is: 6747 Fair Oaks Boulevard, Carmichael, CA
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26	95608-3811.	
26 27	95608-3811. ///	

3. On or about June 30, 1984, the Board of Registered Nursing issued Registered Nurse License No. 372834 to Bronte Lee Edde, also known as Robbin Lee Tiernan and Bronte Lee Fraser (Respondent). The Registered Nurse License was in full force and effect at all times relevant to the charges brought in Accusation No. 2012-638 and will expire on August 31, 2013, unless renewed.

JURISDICTION

- 4. Accusation No. 2012-638 was filed before the Board of Registered Nursing (Board), Department of Consumer Affairs, and is currently pending against Respondent. The Accusation and all other statutorily required documents were properly served on Respondent on April 17, 2012. Respondent timely filed her Notice of Defense contesting the Accusation.
- 5. A copy of Accusation No. 2012-638 is attached as exhibit A and incorporated herein by reference.

ADVISEMENT AND WAIVERS

- 6. Respondent has carefully read, fully discussed with counsel, and understands the charges and allegations in Accusation No. 2012-638. Respondent has also carefully read, fully discussed with counsel, and understands the effects of this Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order.
- 7. Respondent is fully aware of her legal rights in this matter, including the right to a hearing on the charges and allegations in the Accusation; the right to be represented by counsel at her own expense; the right to confront and cross-examine the witnesses against her; the right to present evidence and to testify on her own behalf; the right to the issuance of subpoenas to compel the attendance of witnesses and the production of documents; the right to reconsideration and court review of an adverse decision; and all other rights accorded by the California Administrative Procedure Act and other applicable laws.
- 8. Respondent voluntarily, knowingly, and intelligently waives and gives up each and every right set forth above.

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CULPABILITY

- 9. Respondent admits the truth of each and every charge and allegation in Accusation No. 2012-638.
- 10. Respondent agrees that her Registered Nurse License is subject to discipline and she agrees to be bound by the Board's probationary terms as set forth in the Disciplinary Order below.

CONTINGENCY

- 11. This stipulation shall be subject to approval by the Board of Registered Nursing. Respondent understands and agrees that counsel for Complainant and the staff of the Board of Registered Nursing may communicate directly with the Board regarding this stipulation and settlement, without notice to or participation by Respondent or her counsel. By signing the stipulation, Respondent understands and agrees that she may not withdraw her agreement or seek to rescind the stipulation prior to the time the Board considers and acts upon it. If the Board fails to adopt this stipulation as its Decision and Order, the Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order shall be of no force or effect, except for this paragraph, it shall be inadmissible in any legal action between the parties, and the Board shall not be disqualified from further action by having considered this matter.
- 12. The parties understand and agree that facsimile copies of this Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order, including facsimile signatures thereto, shall have the same force and effect as the originals.
- 13. This Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order is intended by the parties to be an integrated writing representing the complete, final, and exclusive embodiment of their agreement. It supersedes any and all prior or contemporaneous agreements, understandings, discussions, negotiations, and commitments (written or oral). This Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order may not be altered, amended, modified, supplemented, or otherwise changed except by a writing executed by an authorized representative of each of the parties.
- 14. In consideration of the foregoing admissions and stipulations, the parties agree that the Board may, without further notice or formal proceeding, issue and enter the following Disciplinary Order:

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DISCIPLINARY ORDER

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that Registered Nurse License No. 372834 issued to Respondent Bronte Lee Edde, also known as Robbin Lee Tiernan and Bronte Lee Fraser, (Respondent) is revoked. However, the revocation is stayed and Respondent is placed on probation for three (3) years on the following terms and conditions.

Severability Clause. Each condition of probation contained herein is a separate and distinct condition. If any condition of this Order, or any application thereof, is declared unenforceable in whole, in part, or to any extent, the remainder of this Order, and all other applications thereof, shall not be affected. Each condition of this Order shall separately be valid and enforceable to the fullest extent permitted by law.

Obey All Laws. Respondent shall obey all federal, state and local laws. A full and 1. detailed account of any and all violations of law shall be reported by Respondent to the Board in writing within seventy-two (72) hours of occurrence. To permit monitoring of compliance with this condition, Respondent shall submit completed fingerprint forms and fingerprint fees within 45 days of the effective date of the decision, unless previously submitted as part of the licensure application process.

Criminal Court Orders: If Respondent is under criminal court orders, including probation or parole, and the order is violated, this shall be deemed a violation of these probation conditions, and may result in the filing of an accusation and/or petition to revoke probation.

Comply with the Board's Probation Program. Respondent shall fully comply with the conditions of the Probation Program established by the Board and cooperate with representatives of the Board in its monitoring and investigation of the Respondent's compliance with the Board's Probation Program. Respondent shall inform the Board in writing within no more than 15 days of any address change and shall at all times maintain an active, current license status with the Board, including during any period of suspension.

Upon successful completion of probation, Respondent's license shall be fully restored.

3. Report in Person. Respondent, during the period of probation, shall appear in person at interviews/meetings as directed by the Board or its designated representatives.

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4. **Residency, Practice, or Licensure Outside of State.** Periods of residency or practice as a registered nurse outside of California shall not apply toward a reduction of this probation time period. Respondent's probation is tolled, if and when she resides outside of California. Respondent must provide written notice to the Board within 15 days of any change of residency or practice outside the state, and within 30 days prior to re-establishing residency or returning to practice in this state.

Respondent shall provide a list of all states and territories where she has ever been licensed as a registered nurse, vocational nurse, or practical nurse. Respondent shall further provide information regarding the status of each license and any changes in such license status during the term of probation. Respondent shall inform the Board if she applies for or obtains a new nursing license during the term of probation.

5. **Submit Written Reports.** Respondent, during the period of probation, shall submit or cause to be submitted such written reports/declarations and verification of actions under penalty of perjury, as required by the Board. These reports/declarations shall contain statements relative to Respondent's compliance with all the conditions of the Board's Probation Program. Respondent shall immediately execute all release of information forms as may be required by the Board or its representatives.

Respondent shall provide a copy of this Decision to the nursing regulatory agency in every state and territory in which she has a registered nurse license.

6. **Function as a Registered Nurse.** Respondent, during the period of probation, shall engage in the practice of registered nursing in California for a minimum of 24 hours per week for 6 consecutive months or as determined by the Board.

For purposes of compliance with the section, "engage in the practice of registered nursing" may include, when approved by the Board, volunteer work as a registered nurse, or work in any non-direct patient care position that requires licensure as a registered nurse.

The Board may require that advanced practice nurses engage in advanced practice nursing for a minimum of 24 hours per week for 6 consecutive months or as determined by the Board.

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If Respondent has not complied with this condition during the probationary term, and Respondent has presented sufficient documentation of her good faith efforts to comply with this condition, and if no other conditions have been violated, the Board, in its discretion, may grant an extension of Respondent's probation period up to one year without further hearing in order to comply with this condition. During the one year extension, all original conditions of probation shall apply.

7. **Employment Approval and Reporting Requirements.** Respondent shall obtain prior approval from the Board before commencing or continuing any employment, paid or voluntary, as a registered nurse. Respondent shall cause to be submitted to the Board all performance evaluations and other employment related reports as a registered nurse upon request of the Board.

Respondent shall provide a copy of this Decision to her employer and immediate supervisors prior to commencement of any nursing or other health care related employment.

In addition to the above, Respondent shall notify the Board in writing within seventy-two (72) hours after she obtains any nursing or other health care related employment. Respondent shall notify the Board in writing within seventy-two (72) hours after she is terminated or separated, regardless of cause, from any nursing, or other health care related employment with a full explanation of the circumstances surrounding the termination or separation.

8. **Supervision.** Respondent shall obtain prior approval from the Board regarding Respondent's level of supervision and/or collaboration before commencing or continuing any employment as a registered nurse, or education and training that includes patient care.

Respondent shall practice only under the direct supervision of a registered nurse in good standing (no current discipline) with the Board of Registered Nursing, unless alternative methods of supervision and/or collaboration (e.g., with an advanced practice nurse or physician) are approved.

Respondent's level of supervision and/or collaboration may include, but is not limited to the following:

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- (a) Maximum The individual providing supervision and/or collaboration is present in the patient care area or in any other work setting at all times.
- (b) Moderate The individual providing supervision and/or collaboration is in the patient care unit or in any other work setting at least half the hours Respondent works.
- (c) Minimum The individual providing supervision and/or collaboration has person-toperson communication with Respondent at least twice during each shift worked.
- (d) Home Health Care If Respondent is approved to work in the home health care setting, the individual providing supervision and/or collaboration shall have person-to-person communication with Respondent as required by the Board each work day. Respondent shall maintain telephone or other telecommunication contact with the individual providing supervision and/or collaboration as required by the Board during each work day. The individual providing supervision and/or collaboration shall conduct, as required by the Board, periodic, on-site visits to patients' homes visited by Respondent with or without Respondent present.
- 9. **Employment Limitations.** Respondent shall not work for a nurse's registry, in any private duty position as a registered nurse, a temporary nurse placement agency, a traveling nurse, or for an in-house nursing pool.

Respondent shall not work for a licensed home health agency as a visiting nurse unless the registered nursing supervision and other protections for home visits have been approved by the Board. Respondent shall not work in any other registered nursing occupation where home visits are required.

Respondent shall not work in any health care setting as a supervisor of registered nurses. The Board may additionally restrict Respondent from supervising licensed vocational nurses and/or unlicensed assistive personnel on a case-by-case basis.

Respondent shall not work as a faculty member in an approved school of nursing or as an instructor in a Board approved continuing education program.

Respondent shall work only on a regularly assigned, identified and predetermined worksite(s) and shall not work in a float capacity.

If Respondent is working or intends to work in excess of 40 hours per week, the Board may request documentation to determine whether there should be restrictions on the hours of work.

10. **Complete a Nursing Course(s).** Respondent, at her own expense, shall enroll and successfully complete a course(s) relevant to the practice of registered nursing no later than six months prior to the end of her probationary term.

Respondent shall obtain prior approval from the Board before enrolling in the course(s). Respondent shall submit to the Board the original transcripts or certificates of completion for the above required course(s). The Board shall return the original documents to Respondent after photocopying them for its records.

11. **Cost Recovery.** Respondent shall pay to the Board costs associated with its investigation and enforcement pursuant to Business and Professions Code section 125.3 in the amount of \$1,226.00. Respondent shall be permitted to pay these costs in a payment plan approved by the Board, with payments to be completed no later than three months prior to the end of the probation term.

If Respondent has not complied with this condition during the probationary term, and Respondent has presented sufficient documentation of her good faith efforts to comply with this condition, and if no other conditions have been violated, the Board, in its discretion, may grant an extension of Respondent's probation period up to one year without further hearing in order to comply with this condition. During the one year extension, all original conditions of probation will apply.

12. **Violation of Probation.** If Respondent violates the conditions of her probation, the Board after giving Respondent notice and an opportunity to be heard, may set aside the stay order and impose the stayed discipline (revocation/suspension) of Respondent's license.

If during the period of probation, an accusation or petition to revoke probation has been filed against Respondent's license or the Attorney General's Office has been requested to prepare an accusation or petition to revoke probation against Respondent's license, the probationary period shall automatically be extended and shall not expire until the accusation or petition has been acted upon by the Board.

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License Surrender. During Respondent's term of probation, if she ceases practicing 13. due to retirement, health reasons or is otherwise unable to satisfy the conditions of probation, Respondent may surrender her license to the Board. The Board reserves the right to evaluate Respondent's request and to exercise its discretion whether to grant the request, or to take any other action deemed appropriate and reasonable under the circumstances, without further hearing. Upon formal acceptance of the tendered license and wall certificate, Respondent will no longer be subject to the conditions of probation.

Surrender of Respondent's license shall be considered a disciplinary action and shall become a part of Respondent's license history with the Board. A registered nurse whose license has been surrendered may petition the Board for reinstatement no sooner than the following minimum periods from the effective date of the disciplinary decision:

- (1) Two years for reinstatement of a license that was surrendered for any reason other than a mental or physical illness; or
 - One year for a license surrendered for a mental or physical illness. (2)
- Therapy or Counseling Program. Respondent, at her expense, shall participate in 14. an on-going counseling program until such time as the Board releases her from this requirement and only upon the recommendation of the counselor. Written progress reports from the counselor will be required at various intervals.

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1	<u>ACCEPTANCE</u>	
2	I have carefully read the above Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order and have fully	
3	discussed it with my attorney, Jeffrey S. Kravitz, Esq I understand the stipulation and the effec	
4	it will have on my Registered Nurse License. I enter into this Stipulated Settlement and	
5	Disciplinary Order voluntarily, knowingly, and intelligently, and agree to be bound by the	
6	Decision and Order of the Board of Registered Nursing.	
7	DATED: 11.14.12 Syon fe le 212	
8	BRONTE LEE EDDE also known as Robbin Lee Tiernan and Bronte Lee Fraser	
9	Respondent	
10	I have read and fully discussed with Respondent Bronte Lee Edde the terms and conditions	
11	and other matters contained in the above Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order. I approve	
12	its form and content.	
13	DATED: 11-11-12 (1) (1) (1)	
14	Jeffrey S. Wavitz, Esq. Aftorney for Respondent	
15	<u>ENDORSEMENT</u>	
16	The foregoing Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order is hereby respectfully	
17	submitted for consideration by the Board of Registered Nursing of the Department of Consumer	
18	Affairs.	
19	Dated: 11-15-12 Respectfully submitted,	
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21	KAMALA D. HARRIS Attorney General of California JANICE K. LACHMAN	
22	Supervising Deputy Attorney General	
23	Varion Dencer	
24	KAREN R. DENVIR	
25	Deputy Attorney General Attorneys for Complainant	

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Exhibit A

Accusation No. 2012-638

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1	KAMALA D. HARRIS	
2	Attorney General of California ARTHUR D. TAGGART	
3	Supervising Deputy Attorney General KAREN R. DENVIR	
4	Deputy Attorney General State Bar No. 197268	
5	1300 I Street, Suite 125 P.O. Box 944255	
6	Sacramento, CA 94244-2550 Telephone: (916) 324-5333	
7	Facsimile: (916) 327-8643 Attorneys for Complainant	
8	BEFORE THE	
9	BOARD OF REGISTERED NURSING DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS	
10	STATE OF CALIFORNIA	
11	In the Matter of the Accusation Against: Case No. 2012 - 638	
12	BRONTE LEE EDDE, AKA	
13	ROBBIN LEE TIERNAN, AKA BRONTE LEE FRASER, AKA A C C U S A T I O N	
14	23 Indigo Oaks Court Sacramento, CA 95834	
15	Registered Nurse License No. 372834	
16	Respondent.	
17	Complainant alleges:	
18	<u>PARTIES</u>	
- 19	1. Louise R. Bailey, M.Ed., RN ("Complainant") brings this Accusation solely in her	
20	official capacity as the Interim Executive Officer of the Board of Registered Nursing ("Board"),	
21	Department of Consumer Affairs.	
22	Registered Nurse License	
23	2. On or about June 30, 1984, the Board issued Registered Nurse License Number	
24	372834 to Bronte Lee Edde, also known as Robbin Lee Tiernan and Bronte Lee Fraser	
25	("Respondent"). The registered nurse license was in full force and effect at all times relevant to	
26	the charges brought herein and will expire on August 31, 2013, unless renewed.	
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STATUTORY PROVISIONS

- 3. Section 2750 of the Business and Professions Code ("Code") provides, in pertinent part, that the Board may discipline any licensee, including a licensee holding a temporary or an inactive license, for any reason provided in Article 3 (commencing with section 2750) of the Nursing Practice Act.
- 4. Code section 2764 provides, in pertinent part, that the expiration of a license shall not deprive the Board of jurisdiction to proceed with a disciplinary proceeding against the licensee or to render a decision imposing discipline on the license. Under Code section 2811, subdivision (b), the Board may renew an expired license at any time within eight years after the expiration.
 - 5. Code section 2761 states, in pertinent part:

The board may take disciplinary action against a certified or licensed nurse or deny an application for a certificate or license for any of the following:

(f) Conviction of a felony or of any offense substantially related to the qualifications, functions, and duties of a registered nurse, in which event the record of the conviction shall be conclusive evidence thereof.

COST RECOVERY

6. Code section 125.3 provides, in pertinent part, that the Board may request the administrative law judge to direct a licentiate found to have committed a violation or violations of the licensing act to pay a sum not to exceed the reasonable costs of the investigation and enforcement of the case.

CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

(Criminal Conviction)

- 7. Respondent is subject to discipline pursuant to Code sections 2761 subdivision (f), in that Respondent has been convicted of the following crime that is substantially related to the qualifications, functions or duties of a registered nurse:
- a. On or about May 19, 2011, in the Superior Court, County of Yolo, California, in the matter entitled *People vs. Bronte Lee Edde*, 2011, Case No. 11000951, Respondent was convicted by the court following her plea of no contest to a violation of Penal Code section 484, subdivision (a) (petty theft of retail merchandise), a misdemeanor. The circumstances of the crime are that on